Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A011600010019-8

The President's Daily Brief

24 April 1973

45

~~*Top Secret*~~

25X1

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A011600010019-8

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A011600010019-8

Exempt from general
declassification schedule of E.O. 11652
exemption category 5B(1),(2),(3)
declassified only on approval of
the Director of Central Intelligence

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A011600010019-8

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A011600010019-8

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

24 April 1973

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The North Vietnamese are repairing numerous small airfields in South Vietnam and Laos and apparently intend to use some of them for light transport aircraft. *(Page 1)*

25X1

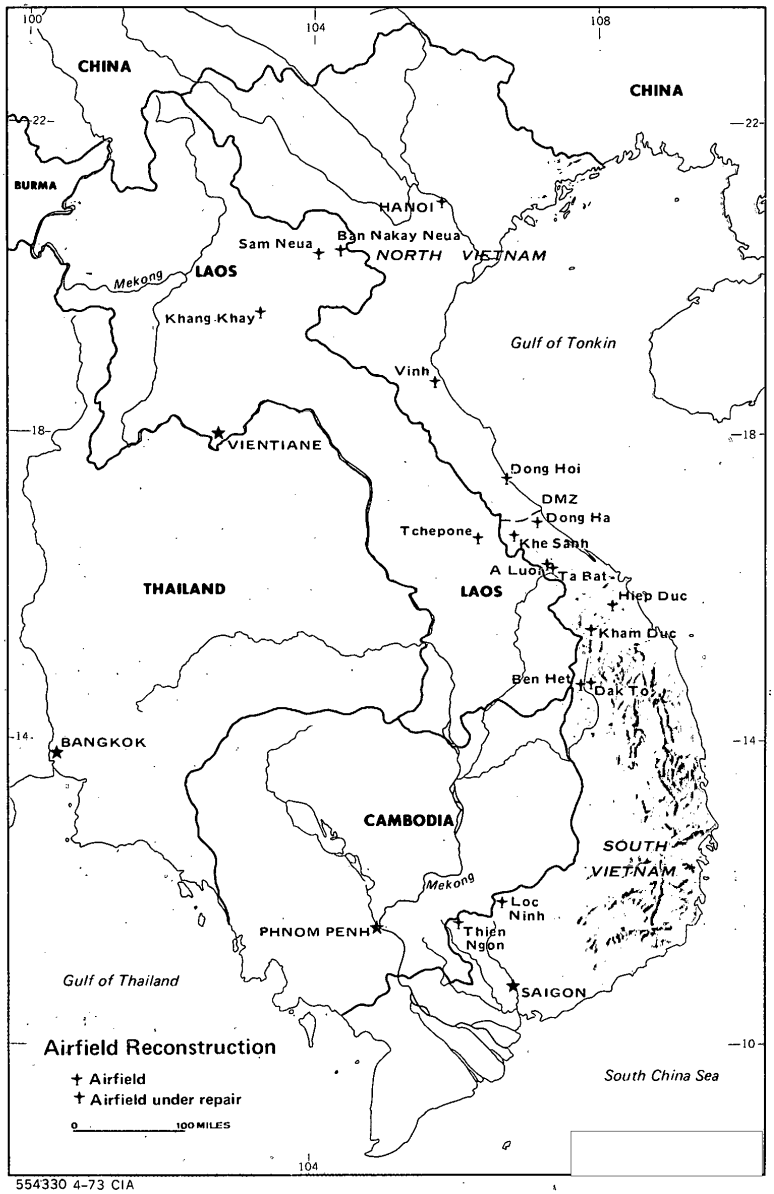
The European currency float seems to be working, but large-scale interventions by central banks have been necessary. *(Page 3)*

The arrival of Moroccan troops in Syria to participate in the "battle" against Israel could raise problems for the US. *(Page 4)*

The Cambodian legislature yesterday approved the creation of the proposed supreme political council and endorsed its extra-constitutional authority. *(Page 5)*

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A011600010019-8

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A011600010019-8



554330 4-73 CIA

25X1

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A011600010019-8

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A011600010019-8

INDOCHINA

The North Vietnamese are repairing numerous small airfields in Communist-controlled territory in South Vietnam and Laos. In most instances, the repairs are relatively simple, such as the filling of bomb craters. The most extensive construction has taken place at Khe Sanh, where the Communists have set up a radar site, rebuilt two runways, and surrounded the base with an elaborate air defense network.

Intercepts [redacted] indicate the North Vietnamese intend to use some of these fields for light transport aircraft. 25X1

All of the airfields are located along major infiltration corridors or near large Communist troop concentrations, and air service would greatly facilitate the transfer of key personnel between Hanoi and the field. Moreover, the North Vietnamese could use the airfields to deliver high priority cargo such as medicine and special weapons. Hanoi would probably claim such flights were by "civilian" aircraft and did not violate the cease-fire accords.

In recent months the North Vietnamese have rebuilt a number of airfields in southern North Vietnam, and transports are now flying scheduled runs between these bases and Hanoi. Last January, the North Vietnamese and Pathet Lao renovated the Sam Neua airfield in Laos, and it is now used by Communist planes from Hanoi as well as from Vientiane.

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A011600010019-8

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A011600010019-8

EGYPT

25X1

25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A011600010019-8

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A011600010019-8

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY DEVELOPMENTS

The European currency float seems to be working, but large-scale interventions by central banks have been necessary. The Bundesbank, for example, has sold over $600 million worth of French, Belgian, and Scandinavian currencies in order to keep the mark within the band.

> *Such support, plus Bonn's extremely tight money policy and controls on inflows of capital, have strengthened the mark, which is no longer the weakest currency in the joint float. If West German exports live up to expectations, the mark should strengthen even more.*

Serious inflation in the Netherlands has hurt the guilder, now the weakest currency in the float. Government controls on capital, furthermore, have encouraged speculators to sell, driving the price of the guilder down even further. So far in the float, the central bank has spent $50 million to support the guilder.

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A011600010019-8

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A011600010019-8

MOROCCO-SYRIA-ISRAEL

The arrival of Moroccan troops in Syria to participate in the "battle" against Israel could raise problems for the US. The troops could be stationed in areas used by the fedayeen for staging raids into Israel. In the past, Israel--holding Syria responsible for letting fedayeen pass through Syrian lines to attack Israel--has not hesitated to retaliate against the Syrian military.

Tel Aviv will not let Morocco's ties with the US deter it from similar retaliation against Moroccan troops. But Israeli awareness of the possibility of retaliation against the 25,000 Jews in Morocco will place some restraint on Israel, and Tel Aviv might issue a warning rather than attack at the first sign of Moroccan support for fedayeen attacks on Israel. If Moroccan and Israeli forces clash, the Israelis might ask the US to intercede with King Hassan to ensure the protection of Moroccan Jews.

The Moroccan Jewish community, which has traditionally relied on the monarchy for protection, is already fearful that it will be the target of mob violence when the first Moroccan soldier is killed on the Syrian front.

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A011600010019-8

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A011600010019-8

NOTES

Cambodia: The legislature yesterday approved the creation of the proposed supreme political council and endorsed its extra-constitutional authority.

25X1

Pakistan: The government is campaigning actively to persuade its major creditors to absolve Pakistan of debts of the former East Pakistan. The campaign emphasizes Islamabad's position that its obligation for these debts ends on June 30.

25X1

Islamabad is anxious to resolve the issue quickly because its major aid donors have made new pledges of development aid contingent on a settlement.

Libya: President Qadhafi's recent call for a "new revolution" has triggered fear and uncertainty, especially among members of the Libyan educated elite, which appears to be the primary target of the purge. Security forces have raided the homes of a number of prominent Libyans, and several reportedly have been arrested. By striking at the educated middle class, Qadhafi may hope to silence critical members of the university and professional communities. He may also hope to stimulate the lethargic bureaucracy by removing their sense of personal security. Qadhafi's cultural revolution has not yet disrupted the operation of foreign oil companies.

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A011600010019-8

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A011600010019-8

Top Secret

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A011600010019-8